

INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY AND WATER COMMISSION  
UNITED STATES AND MEXICO

El Paso, Texas  
March 30, 1989

JOINT REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL ENGINEERS TO  
DELINEATE THE INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY ON AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHIC  
MOSAICS OF THE RIO GRANDE

To the Honorable Commissioners  
International Boundary and Water Commission  
United States and Mexico  
El Paso, Texas and Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua

Sirs:

Pursuant to your instructions, we are pleased to report to you regarding the delineation of the international boundary on aerial photographic mosaics of the Rio Grande prepared by the Commission in compliance with Article II, paragraph C of the Boundary Treaty of 1970.

DESCRIPTION OF WORK

The aerial photographic mosaics have been prepared on the basis of the 1982 and 1983 aerial photographic surveys of the Rio Grande. Photographic color images have been prepared on a scale of 1:25,000 utilizing the Transverse Mercator Projection. In the margins of each sheet, this Transverse projection has been marked at intervals of one kilometer. Also, we have marked the Texas State "Lambert" grid at intervals of 10,000 feet (3,048 meters) and the geographic grid at intervals of 2 minutes, 30 seconds.

The aerial photographic mosaics of the limitrophe section of the Rio Grande consists of 112 sheets. The Mexican Section was assigned the responsibility of providing the aerial photography and supplying the scale 1:10,000 black and white enlargements to be used to delineate the boundary line. The United States Section was assigned the responsibility of preparing the aerial photographic mosaics in final form.

DELINEATION OF THE BOUNDARY LINE

The location of the international boundary line was carefully determined jointly by the two Sections on photographs at a scale of 1:10,000 marking it along the middle of the channel occupied by normal flow, and where two or more channels existed, it was marked along the middle of the channel with the greater average width over its length, in accordance with the provisions of Article II, paragraph A of the Boundary Treaty of 1970. The boundary delineated on the 1:10,000 scale photographs was transferred to the 1:25,000 scale

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photographs. Each Section selected the geographical features that would be shown in its territory, which are identified by the proper names used in the respective country.

With respect to the international reservoirs at Amistad and Falcon, we have delineated the jurisdictional line in accordance with Commission Minutes No. 199 and No. 232 entitled, "Establishment of Jurisdictional Line in Falcon Reservoir," dated December 15, 1953, and "Demarcation of A Jurisdictional Line in Amistad Reservoir", dated May 9, 1968, respectively, according to the stipulations of Article 21 of the 1944 Water Treaty. In the reaches of the Rio Grande where the Commission has the demarcation of the international boundary pending in the main channel of the river, we have placed the following note on the corresponding sheets:

"The location of the international boundary in this reach is subject to the judgment of the International Boundary and Water Commission, United States and Mexico, according to provisions of the 1970 Boundary Treaty. The line shown corresponds to that approved in Minute No. 253."

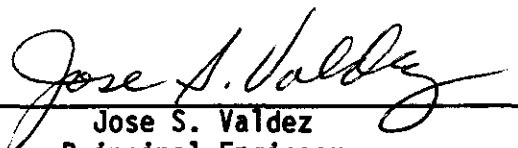
We have made a complete review of each of the sheets that make up the aerial photographic mosaics and we find that the boundary line, as delineated in the Rio Grande and shown on them, is delineated with precision in accordance with the stipulations of the Boundary Treaty of 1970.

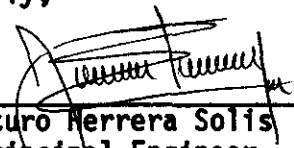
For each Section, a set of originals on cronoflex film, a set of copies on cronopaque material, and 40 copies each of the aerial photographic mosaics have been prepared.

RECOMMENDATION

We recommend that the Commissioners approve the delineation of the international boundary on the aerial photographic mosaics of the Rio Grande in compliance with Article II, paragraph C of the Boundary Treaty of 1970.

Respectfully,

  
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Jose S. Valdez  
Principal Engineer  
United States Section

  
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Arturo Herrera Solis  
Principal Engineer  
Mexican Section